

Republic of the Philippines

Ministry of Natural Resources

Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila

SPECIAL ORDER)
No. <u>609</u> :
Series of 1987)

OCT 14 1987

SUBJECT:

Creation of a Committee to investigate and prosecute exclusively serious violations of the penal provisions of P.D. No. 705, as amended.

In the interest of the service and to provide effective prosecution of offenses penalized under the provisions of P.D. No. 705, as amended, a Committee is hereby created to investigate and prosecute exclusively such offenses to be composed of the following:

Romulo D. San Juan Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs

- Chairman

Antonio C. Elum OIC, Legal Service

- Member

Jose Rosales State Prosecutor Department of Justice - Member

Rafael V. Señora State Prosecutor Department of Justice

- Member

Oscar A. Pascua Assistant Fiscal Manila

- Member

Domingo B. Maristela, Jr. National Bureau of

- Member

National Bureau of Investigation

Oscar C. Lianko Senior Legal Officer, DENR

- Member

Pedro M. Sabundayo, Jr. Senior Legal Officer, DENR

- Member

Wilfredo Saraos - Member Senior Legal Officer, DENR

Dennis Gemarino - Member Senior Legal Officer, DENR

Virgilio Leynes - Member Senior Legal Officer, DENR

Alfredo Nava - Member Asst. Division Chief, ISD, FMB

Samuel Bongcayao - Member Senior Legal Officer, FMB

Justo Ternal - Member ISD, FMB

Pedrillo Altarejos - Member ISD, FMB

The Committee shall be divided into two teams. The first team shall handle the immediate investigation of complaints and reports of violations, undertake intelligence work, gather, collate and evaluate evidence and the filing of the necessary criminal information/complaints in the courts. The second team shall handle the trial and prosecution of cases.

To ensure the effective and expeditious investigation, prosecution and conviction of offenders, the Chairman may designate members of the team who shall perform liaison work and enlist the assistance of the courts, the constabulary and police authorities as may be necessary.

The Regional Executive Directors shall each designate their respective representatives from their Legal Division who shall be considered as additional members of the Special Committee.

In the performance of its official functions, the Committee is authorized to issue appropriate subpoena to compel the attendance of witnesses and/or production of documents, as well as to administer oaths to persons testifying in connection herewith.

All DENR employees are requested to extend their full cooperation to assure success of the Committee's undertakings. All complaints and reports of serious violations of forestry laws, rules and regulations, more particularly those punishable under Executive Order No. 277, shall be immediately referred to the Committee by all concerned.

Considering the functions of the Committee, all expenses including honorarium herein indicated, that will be incurred in the performance of its functions, shall be chargeable to the intelligence funds created under Letter of Instructions No. 1020. The members with the exception of the Chairman shall each be entitled to a monthly honorarium of P1,000.00, subject to the usual availability of funds and accounting rules and procedures. The honorarium of the members coming from the different regions shall be paid from their respective offices.

This Order takes effect immediately and supersedes all previous orders inconsistent herewith.

FULCENCIO S. FACTORAN, JR. Secretary